



SORBONNE
UNIVERSITY
ABU DHABI

Bachelor in **HISTORY** CONCENTRATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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overview

The Bachelor's degree in History is awarded by Sorbonne University Paris and is taught in French at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi by internationally renowned professors. Students may choose between two specialized tracks : Political Science and Diplomacy, or Geopolitics and International Security. Prepared for understanding and analyzing the contemporary world, students can consider pursuing a Master's degree and a career in the broad field of international relations.

The Bachelor's degree adopts a multidisciplinary, global, and connected approach, spanning from Antiquity to the present day. Each course is selected for its relevance to current political, economic, social, religious, cultural, and diplomatic issues through workshops dedicated to analyzing contemporary events. These workshops are designed to decipher and address current events using innovative pedagogical approaches. Elective courses allow students to tailor their

academic journey by adding skill sets in digital humanities, digital diplomatics, research methodology, and foreign languages. Professional development is a significant component, with the introduction of a mandatory 2-month internship in the final semester, either in the UAE or internationally, through our Erasmus+ partnerships. Study projects encourage students to engage with professionals through seminars and to work

on topics that help them consider their career paths, depending on the chosen track. The courses are taught by internationally renowned professors who are recognized experts in their fields, meeting the standards of excellence and rigor characteristic of the French educational system. The program follows the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), and the degree is awarded by Sorbonne University in Paris.

programme

→ First Year

Core Courses

- History of Major Political Structures
- Christian and Muslim Worlds in the Middle Ages
- Introduction to the History of Globalization: From the World Empires of Eurasia to the World Economy
- Connected History of Europe and the Modern World
- The Age of Revolutions and the Birth of Modern Political Thought
- History of Propaganda, Media, and Information in the Age of Extremes

International Relations concentration

Political Science and Diplomacy Track

- Introduction to Political Science
- From the International System to the Regional Diplomacy of the Gulf State

Geopolitics and International Security Track

- Introduction to Geopolitics and International Security
- New Global Geopolitical and Security Challenges

Electives

- Foreign Languages, Sports, Cultural Events, Historian's Workshop, Introduction to Research Methodology...



→ Second Year

Core Courses

- History of War and Peace
- From the Industrial Revolution to the Digital Revolution
- Colonization and Colonial Legacy: Memory Diplomacy from Subaltern Studies to Cancel Culture
- International Relations from Europe to the Russian and Ottoman Empires
- Between Violence and Tolerance: Anthropological History of Religious Wars
- Connected History from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean
- History of Environmental and Climate Changes
- The Cold War World: From the UN to the Fall of the USSR

International Relations concentration

Political Science and Diplomacy Track

- Hard, Smart & Soft Power: The Diplomacy of Powers
- Professional Study Project: Exploring Careers in Diplomacy
- Information and Communication from Queen Victoria to Elon Musk
- Scientific Diplomacy: From Concorde to Space Exploration

Geopolitics and International Security Track

- Conflict Resolution
- Professional Study Project: Preventive Diplomacy and Defense Diplomatic Networks
- The International System and Conflict Management
- Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and Economic Intelligence

Electives

- Foreign Languages, Sports, Cultural Events, Introduction to Digital Humanities, Historian's Workshop, Diplomatics, Advanced Research Methodology...

→ Third Year

Core Courses

- Political Power and Christian Religion in Antiquity and the Middle Ages
- From Mecca to Baghdad: Ideologies and Practices of the Caliphate
- The Anglo-Saxon Worlds: From American Imperialism to Brexit
- Turkey, Asia, and Europe: From Constantinople to Istanbul
- China in International Relations

International Relations concentration

Political Science and Diplomacy Track

- Political Dynamics and Societal Changes in the Maghreb and the Middle East (20th-21st centuries)
- Supervised Study Project: Political Evolutions and Transformations in the Arab and Mediterranean World

Geopolitics and International Security Track

- Terrorism and Society from the French Revolution to September 11, 2001
- Supervised Study Project: Understanding International Security Issues through Role-Playing

Mandatory 2-Month Internship

- in the UAE or abroad

Electives

- Foreign Languages, Sports, Cultural Events, Digital Diplomatics, Methodology for the Internship Report...

Explore International Study Opportunities

Starting from the second year of the Bachelor's degree in History, students have the opportunity to participate in an international exchange program for either one semester or a full academic year. Thanks to the ECTS credit system, courses completed abroad are fully recognized as part of the degree at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, with no additional tuition fees. Exchanges are open through a selection process to ensure personalized support and maintain academic excellence.

Among the partner institutions are prestigious universities such as Sciences Po Paris (France), Tsinghua University (China), Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (Spain), Università degli Studi di Bergamo (Italy), University of Malta (Malta), and Universidade Federal do Pará (Brazil). From the 2026 academic year onwards, some exchange programs will also offer scholarships to support selected students.

Career prospects

This Bachelor's degree plays a significant role in the development of intelligence and reasoning which opens the doors to numerous career opportunities.

Far from being restricted to professions and training directly linked to history, this degree provides a unique opportunity for working in a variety of sectors including Journalism, Communication and Media, Political Science, Diplomacy and NGOs and Public Service and Administration. Graduates can also work in Education, Publishing, Heritage Institutions, International Tourism and Trade.

This degree provides graduates with several options to pursue further academic studies at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi and other overseas institutions.





Admission requirements

To be eligible for this Bachelor's degree, students must have the following :

- French Baccalaureate with a minimum final average of 12/20 or High School Diploma with a minimum 80% average (or equivalent)*.
- French Aptitude Certificate: minimum score of B2 level (accepted certificates: DU issued by Sorbonne University, DELF, TEF, TCF and SELFEE). Students with a French Baccalaureate are exempted from the language proficiency exam**.

*Students not meeting this requirement may be accepted following a review of high school subject results, supporting exams scores and a student's personal statement.

**Students not meeting the required French Aptitude Certificate will be admitted conditionally in the programme, subject to passing a Foundation Programme in the French Language (French Intensive Course).

Tuition Fees

(Including admin. fees - over 3 years)

AED 215,100 (approximately US\$ 58,615)

Scholarship options*:

- Emirati citizens receive the H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan scholarship grant covering tuition fees for the programme and a foundation year (if any).
- For non-Emirati students, academic excellence scholarships are offered, covering up to 75% of the tuition fee.

Visit our website for more information.

**Conditions apply*

Why Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi ?

In today's fast-paced and globalised economies, knowledge and languages both serve an important role in creating progressive and vibrant societies. The French education system is known for its high level of rigorous critical thinking and debating skills, which play a significant role in developing future pioneers and leaders.

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is a globally recognised education institution that serves as a bridge between civilisations by offering a multicultural environment, which promotes and develops a strong culture of tolerance, curiosity, harmony and cultural awareness for today's modern economy. Students have access to internationally acclaimed faculty, world-class facilities and internationally certified degrees, which places them firmly on the right path in preparation for a successful career.

This degree is officially accredited by the UAE Commission for Academic Accreditation (www.caa.ae).





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